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OVERT INFORMATION ON WORLD COMMUNISM.

Introductory Note.

The purpose of this questionnaire in outline form is to provide guidance for interviews with various components of the Agency (notably :
Library, OCI, [REDACTED]) and other qualified informants inside or outside the Government. On the basis of the replies received, our Unit intends to

- a) determine which publications are wanted, either on a routing or retention basis ;
- b) develop a catalog of reference sources on World Communism (bibliographies, repositories of pertinent publications, reviews or analyses of such information, etc.) ;
- c) identify gaps and deficiencies of such information (as well as possible overlaps), with a view to recommending appropriate action.

"Overt" in this context denotes information which was public at the source, regardless of whether it may now be classified because of the manner in which it was obtained, or because of the purpose for which it was translated, digested or listed in a bibliography, or the like.

"Information" denotes any communication, oral or written, verbal, pictorial, statistical etc., pertaining to World Communism, whether periodical or not, both current and past (background).

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"World Communism" refers here to all aspects of international communism which can conceivably affect the national interest, security and foreign policy objectives of the United States ; it includes international as well as national communism in any foreign country, its ideology and doctrine as well as its organization, political and social activities, propaganda or any other pertinent aspect. "Information on World Communism" denotes both information from communist and from non-communist sources -- the latter only insofar as they pertain ~~xx~~ to any of the subjects defined above.

Priorities. We are primarily interested in information on a world-wide or continent-wide basis. Whenever information (bibliographies, accession lists etc., as specified below) is available country-by-country only, it is suggested to focus principal attention on priority countries, such as

Russia, China, France, Italy, India, Indonesia, Japan, Brazil.

With regard to specific communist fronts, it is suggested to concentrate on groups concerned with

Youth (and Students), Labor Unions, Peace.

These priorities, however, cannot be exclusive : significant overt information on policy trends, events and personalities in the above named priority countries may often be found in obscure CP publications in third-rate countries, because the security-mindedness of their editors and the over-all political alertness of the party there is usually lower. During World War II, we also derived most significant overt intelligence on Nazi Germany not from metropolitan dailies, but from small-town papers.

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A) PRINTED MATTER.

I. Current Information.

a) Newspapers.

1. Bibliographies (lists) of communist newspapers.

(i) "Communist" denotes here a newspaper published by a Communist Party, any other communist organization, by a communist government (but only a general circulation newspaper, not a law gazette or similar administrative government publication, even if a daily) as well as any ostensibly independent newspaper, if it follows by and large the party line.

(ii) It is desirable to obtain such lists subdivided by countries and with pertinent notes, as to time of publication, identity of publisher, circulation figures, ways by which it can be obtained, etc.

(iii) If no complete bibliography of this type is available, some of the information requested above may be extracted from general newspaper directories, published in various countries and presumably available at the Library of Congress.

2. Agencies, institutions, libraries where communist newspapers are currently available (sufficient to obtain such lists from some of the most important repositories).

3. Repositories of past files of communist newspapers -- especially if different from those listed under 2 above (state name and place of newspapers and years from which copies are on file ; indicate whether originals, photostats or microfilms are filed).

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(Newspapers, cont'd)

4. Press clipping services, governmental or private (commercial or research institutions), which do - or could - furnish clippings from communist newspapers as well as clippings from non-communist newspapers pertaining to World Communism.

(i) information about such services should include : which papers (at least : from which countries, in which languages, or how many) does such service use for clippings, in which way can requirements of a customer be defined (eg list of subject matters into which the service breaks down its material) ; security restrictions, if any, cost - if a private enterprise, capacity and availability - if a government unit.

5. Digests, analyses, translations, excerpts -- from communist newspapers or from non-communist newspapers, but pertaining to World Communism, whether on a world-wide basis or for certain regions or countries.

b) P e r i o d i c a l s .

6. Both communist periodicals and non-communist periodicals, insofar as they refer to World Communism, should be covered with regard to the points listed under 1 - 5 above, i.e.

Bibliographies

Currently available publications

Past files

Clipping services

Digests, Analyses, Translations, Excerpts

In some instances, the answers may already be included in the answers regarding newspapers, above.

7. In view of the huge number of such periodicals (in France alone, some 80 CP-controlled periodicals were listed), it appears desirable to concentrate priority attention ~~the~~ upon periodicals of communist doctrine and policy -- such as KOMMUNIST in Russia, CAHIERS DU COMMUNISME in France, EINHEIT in Eastern Germany, etc. -- analysis of which might be of value for political forecasts, interpretation of party tactics and propaganda, etc.
8. Periodical indices, guides, bibliographies of articles, or the like, not exclusively devoted to World Communism, but containing a sufficient number of references to articles in periodicals dealing with World Communism (or any of its aspects) to warrant ~~the~~ their inclusion here -- e.g. Readers Guide to Periodical Literature.

(i) Certain bibliographies in specialized fields -- eg labor, religion, youth, peace etc. -- might also be considered in this context.

c) N e w B o o k s .

9. Book reviews, summaries, advertising on new books on World Communism, whether published by communist or by non-communist authors and publishers.

(i) Possibly including book reviews published in Orbit countries or by Communist Parties in non-orbit countries -- possibly indicative of the significance which the communists themselves attribute to such new books.

(ii) Advertising on such books might also be obtained through the clipping services mentioned in p. 4 above.

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10. Accession lists of libraries in this Agency, other government units or outside libraries, indicating receipt of new books as defined above.
11. Channels through which such books, if published in the Orbit, may be obtained. If there are restrictions or difficulties in obtaining such books from non-Orbit countries, information as to how to obtain such books should be included here, too.

d) P a r t y D o c u m e n t s .

Definition : Minutes and protocols of congresses and conferences of communist parties and other communist organizations, national or international, texts of programs, policy statements, significant speeches, organizational reports, directories, statistics and other non-periodical~~x~~ publications of communist parties and other communist organizations.

Note : Such party documents, very revealing in the early years of the international communist movement (when, for instance, even the minutes of the Executive Committee of the Communist International were published, though in an expurgated form), have tended to contain fewer and fewer substantive data and to be edited with increasing secretiveness, especially since 1945. Nevertheless, the Communist Parties, in conveying the party line, policy directives and organizational instructions to their followers, cannot deviate too far from their true intentions lest they mislead their own audiences : thus overt party documents, if studied with full knowledge of 'Aesopian language' and related communist peculiarities, offer still indispensable raw material for intelligence analysis.

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12. Accession lists of Party Documents, as received inside or outside the government (in this country).

(i) Do such accession lists merely contain the titles of the documents or do they also indicate their contents and other pertinent data ?

(ii) How can the documents listed be obtained -- loaned, read at the depository, photostated or otherwise reproduced, translated ?

13. General bibliographies, studies or surveys of such documents.

14. Translations, digests or other "processing" of such documents.

e) P r o p a g a n d a M a t e r i a l s .

Definition : Posters, leaflets, handbills, pamphlets and other propaganda publications of communist parties and other communist organizations (excluding newspapers, periodicals, new books and party documents, as discussed above), whether intended for party members or for the population at large.

We might conceivably also include under this heading photographs of communist parades, wall writings, outdoor propaganda displays, wall newspapers, and similar materials.

15. Which units of this Agency, other government agencies or private institutions or organizations do receive such Propaganda Materials ?

(i) Which geographic areas, periods, types of materials or special subject matters does each such collection cover ?

(ii) What is its approximate volume and how is it organized and accessible ?

16. Where -- in this Agency or elsewhere -- are such Propaganda Materials received as an "incidental byproduct" but not separately collected ?

(i) May concern, for instance, 25X1A8a (enclosures to field dispatches), 25X1A8a (Art branch ?), Area divisions and desks (project files, 25X1A8a files, communist operations files), OTR (Course on World Communism).

(ii) The Graphics Register may be queried about the photographic material referred to above.

17. General studies, analyses etc. of such Propaganda Materials -- either confined to the categories defined above, or part of general studies on communist propaganda.

II. Background Information.

Definition : All printed matter pertaining to World Communism, whether published by communist or by non-communist sources, as defined in Part I, "Current Information" above, which is no longer "current", but still useful as background information concerning the history, doctrine, policies, tactics, organizations, personalities etc. of the international communist movement, both on the international and on the national level.

18. Reference Books : Encyclopedias, Dictionaries, Who's Who and other biographical compilations, directories of communist parties and front organizations, glossaries of communist terminology, maps, charts and other publications of permanent reference value.

19. Standard works on communist doctrine and history : listing the principal works by Marx, Engels, Lenin, Stalin and other authoritative books of lasting value on communist doctrine and history, whether by communist or non-communist authors (preferably in English).
20. General and specialized bibliographies on pertinent background literature, in whatever language, including indices to past periodical literatures, reviews or analyses of such books, and related information.
 - (i) Library Cards, for both background literature and for current accessions, might greatly facilitate the task of computing and utilizing such biographical information. (Library of Congress ? NY Public Library ? Hoover Library ? CIA Library ?)
21. Libraries and other repositories of such background literature.
 - (i) Specify which countries, languages, periods or specialized subject matters are covered in each collection. Estimate the approximate number of titles.
 - (ii) Conditions for use of each such library : access to reading rooms, loans, photostats or other reproductions.

B) ORAL COMMUNICATIONS.

f) B r o a d c a s t s .

22. All relevant broadcasts are apparently covered by FBIS. We shall have merely to ascertain any limitations of that coverage, the manner in which its results are made available, the extent to which it is coordinated with parallel information from other sources (eg with press analysis), plus any further information required to obtain a valid picture of such coverage.

(i) List and define all FBIS reports, analyses and other publications.

(ii) Are there any other units inside or outside the government covering broadcasts on World Communism ? (EG : Radio Free Europe, Radio Liberation, USIA ? British monitoring services ?)

g) R e c o r d s .

23. Current oral communications -- mainly speeches by communist leaders or policy statements etc. emanating from communist sources -- are either broadcast or reprinted, therefore covered above. We should ascertain, however, to what extent records (incl. tapes or soundtracks of newsreels) of past oral communications of this type are available.

(i) Such records might have intelligence value -- for instance, to check the identity of a person's broadcast voice by comparison with past recordings of the same voice ; they might also be needed for psychological warfare purposes -- for instance, demonstrating contradictions in the party line by producing past statements of communist leaders in their original voices.

(ii) Such records might be produced by communist sources -- for propaganda purposes -- or by non-communist sources (as a by-product of monitoring services, or for the above-mentioned psychological warfare reasons).

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